



May 14, 2007

Mayor's Youth Commission Members:

What a great first year we have had! But it doesn't mean we can slow down just because summer is here. I wanted to highlight some of our achievements for this first year:

- > Substantial work on a strategic plan to guide the Commission's future efforts
- > Creation of a web site (www.arlingtontx.gov/youthcommission)
- > Participation in a National and Global Youth Service Day project on April 21 at the East Branch Library
- > Identification of four initiatives for 2008

After our regular meeting on April 5, 2007, the Parks and Recreation Department assumed oversight of the Mayor's Youth Commission. At our first official meeting on May 3, we had a very exciting, fun and productive meeting at the Dottie Lynn Recreation Center. Ashley Owen from Arlington Human Service Planners discussed the strategic plan and had the group discuss their thoughts on what we may want to focus on starting in the fall. The group identified four important initiatives.

1. Participation in two college/career fairs during the 2008 school year.
2. Creation of an annual talent event (Arlington Idol).
3. Identification and participation in various community projects including the annual National and Global Youth Service Day.
4. Development of a drug awareness campaign for all schools in conjunction with the "Fatal Choices Black-Out Day."

The Commission is interested in many other initiatives, but everyone agreed that we have to limit ourselves to be sure our work gets done right. In future years, we will work on the other objectives from the strategic plan.

At this point, you need to start thinking about whether or not you have an interest in continuing with the Commission during the 2008 school year. If you do choose to stay with us, please be prepared to attend meetings, voice your opinion and help as needed with various assignments. There is a time commitment, but the rewards are endless.

Our next meeting is on June 7 at 6 PM at the Dottie Lynn Recreation Center located at 3200 Norwood Drive. The phone number is 817-277-5001. At this meeting, we will discuss the Strategic Plan as a final document and have Officer Elections. If you are interested in running for an Officer position, please go to the web site to see what it takes to do so or you can contact me to discuss further. Elected Officers will officially cross over in the August meeting. If you have any questions, please contact me at 817-459-6499 or email me at falgouty@ci.arlington.tx.us.

I look forward to seeing or hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Yvonne Falgout

Yvonne Falgout, MYC Coordinator
Center Programs Manager
Parks and Recreation Department

